

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, UR

SUBJ: MILD REACTION TO SOVIET NULLIFICATION OF 1972 U.S. - USSR

TRADE AGREEMENT

BEWT FOR THOMPSON

1. REACTION REFLECTED IN EAST-WEST TRADE COMMUNITY IN VIENNA TO NULLIFICATION BY SOVIETS OF 1972 U.S. - USSR TADE AGREEMENTS HAS BEEN MILD WITH INDICATIONS THAT SOVIETS AND EASTERN EUROPEANS ARE MAKING DAY-TO-DAY DECISIONS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR STATED DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE TRADE WITH U.S.

2. ALEX CROSSAN, DOW CHEMICAL CORP. RESIDENT MANAGER IN VIENNA WHO RESOPNSIBLE FOR DOW TRADE WITH USSR, EE COUNTRIES AND YUGOSLAVIA, TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT DOW CORP. MANAGER IN MOSCOW WAS CALLED TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE ON JANUARY 23, AND TOLD THAT DOW PERMIT TO MAINTAIN ACCREDITED OFFICE IN MOSCOW HAS BEEN EXTENDED. PERMIT WAS ORIGINALLY BASED ON 1972 U.S.

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- USSR TRADE AGREEMENTS AND WAS VALID FOR ONE YEAR. DURING CORDIAL

MEETING WHICH INCLUDED DRINKS AND COOKIES SOVIET OFFICIALS
STATE THEY ARE HAPPY WITH DOW CHEMICAL AS TRADING PARTNER
AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED GOOD BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP.
SOVIETS MADE NO REFERENCE TO THEIR NULLIFICATION OF 1972 TRADE
AGREEMENTS DURING MEETING. CROSSAN SAID DOW TRADE WITH USSR
AMOUNTED TO "COUPLE OF MILLION HUNDRED DOLLARS" IN 1974.

3. DR. VIKTOR NOVOTNY, HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR FOREIGN
RELATIONS, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF METALLURGY AND HEAVY ENGINEERING
OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, WHO IS IN VIENNA TO
ATTEND A UNIDO MEETING, CALLED AT EWTC TO SAY THAT CZECHS HOPE U.S.
WILL CONTINUE ITS TRADE PROMOTION EFFORTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
NOVOTNY DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION LONG/GRAVEL AMENDMENT
TO U.S. TRADE BILL BUT SAID CZECHS WANT USG
TO CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE AMERICAN FIRMS TO BRING THEIR
PRODUCTS TO ATTENTION OF CZECHS WHO ARE STILL INTERESTED
IN BUYING AMERICAN PRODUCTS. HUMES

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